

# **Fires Knowledge Network**



**COL Stephen Mitchell**  
**Directorate of Training and Doctrine**  
**U.S. Army Field Artillery Center**  
**21 Oct 02**

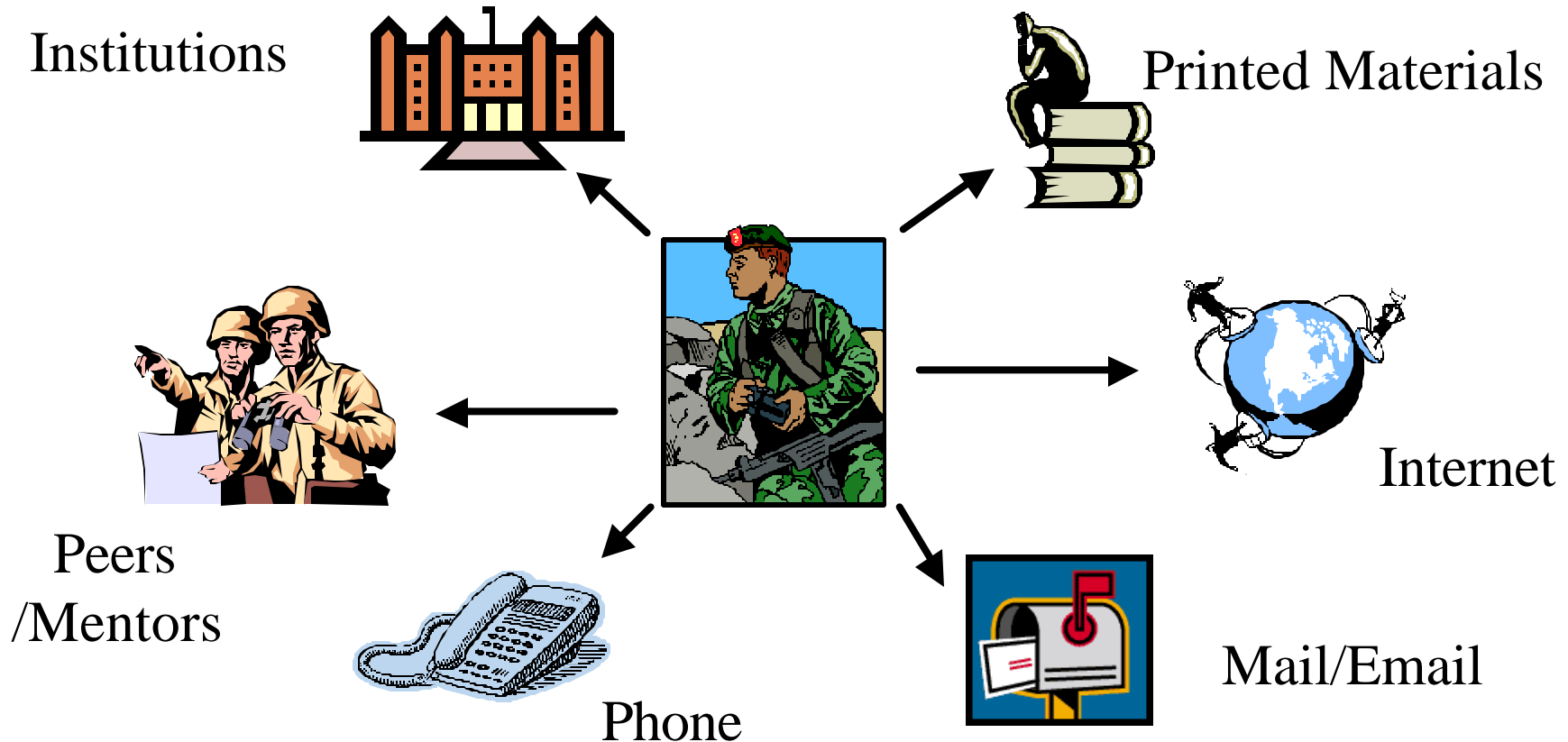


# Agenda

- **How we do business now**
- **How we should do business**
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  - **REACH Tool**
  - **Community of Practice**
- **Completed Milestones**
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- **FKN Site Live Demo**
  - **AKO Homepage (Group Sever Overview)**
  - **FKN Pages and Channels overview**
- **Questions**



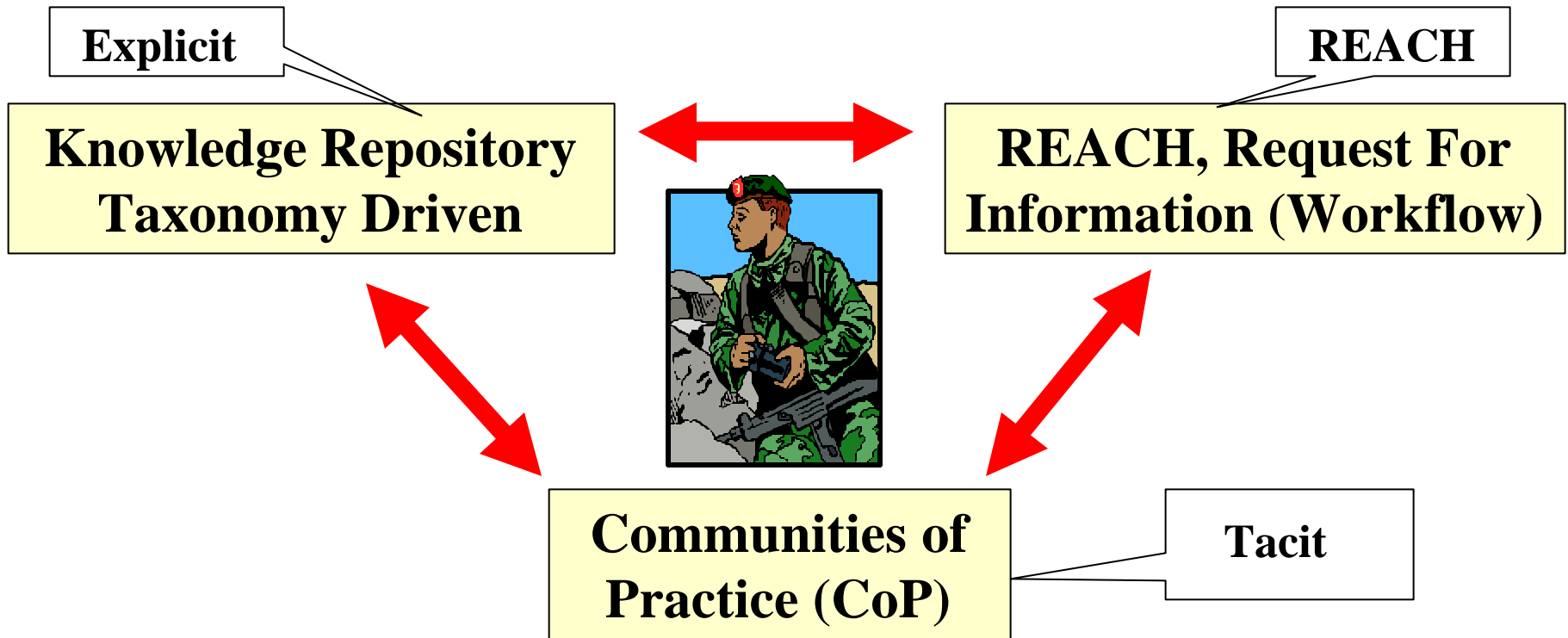
# How we do business now



**A soldier seeking information or guidance currently uses many unrelated sources; often the information is hard to find or not found at all.**



# How we should do business



A Field Artillery soldier or Fire Supporter seeking information should have a “One-Stop” branch/domain location (online) for finding information, communicating with peers/mentors, establishing informal and formal problem solving/training teams, asking a question or providing feedback related to their field of expertise and job, available in garrison or war.



# FKN Components

- **Knowledge Repository (KR):** An online virtual/physical compilation of all professional information relating to Fire Support. The field will be able to find relevant information quickly using a custom built Taxonomy. Schools/SMEs will validate the KR based on their professional areas.
- **REACH Tool:** Link from the field to the school. It is a automated system for the field to ask questions or provide feedback. It is a truly automated “Red Leg” Hotline that communicates both ways. RFI based in workflow software for creation of FAQ database and collection of matrix data for analysis.
- **Communities of Practice (CoP):** Professional forums for Fire Supporters to reach out to each other online for the sharing or obtaining of information and forming virtual teams based on user experience and needs. Each unit can have their own CoP. Branch sponsored CoPs will allow the school to mine “knowledge nuggets” to share with the entire Fire Support community.
- The combination of all three elements in one location (at AKO), using single sign on, is an extremely powerful knowledge enabling tool for field units and garrison institutions (One-Stop Shopping for all Fire Supporters)



# Completed Milestones

- **The Fires Knowledge Network (FKN) has been merged into the Battle Command Knowledge System (BCKS) by the DA CIO/G6 Enterprise Integration Officer (Mr. Winkler, SES)**
- **Six partners have been selected for the Proof or Principle (PoP) with the FA as the lead proponent: Field Artillery, Infantry, AMEDD/OTSG, JFKSWC, Battle Command Training Program (BCTP) & US Army War College**
- **The FKN partners will be among the first Knowledge Networks to be built under the BCKS umbrella**
- **DA CIO/G6 Enterprise Integration, Strategic Partnering Office, will manage and lead the FKN partner PoP**
- **DA CIO/G6 Strategic Partnering Office will lead development of matrix data to validate the effectiveness of the PoP**
- **AKO Knowledge Network test platform it is now ready for population of the PoP with users**



# Future Milestones

- **20-24 Oct: FKN briefing and demo/booth at the Field Artillery and Joint Fires Conference**
- **27-31 Oct: Prep and validate FKN for Operational Forces Invitation; Active Duty BDE/DIVARTY size unit selected and invited to participate by DCG/CG**
- **24 Oct–15 Nov: Refine FKN platform based on user input and development of users guide (how-to handout)**
- **15 Nov-15 Dec: Invite National Guard BDE/DIVARTY size unit and Field Artillery Directorates into the FKN PoP**
- **15 Nov - ?: Use the FKN partner networks for problem solving across the BOS (JTF)**
- **15 Nov - ?: Continue to make improvements to the software platform from user feedback**
- **Mar 04 - ?: Development of long term FKN fielding plan if approved by the CG and DA CIO/G6 as an Army full production platform**



# Questions/Comments





## Fires Knowledge Network Snapshots



# FKN Homepage

AKO - Pilot - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Media Mail Print Address Book Favorites

Address: https://cop.us.army.mil/a/index.jsp Go Links

FKN Home Knowledge Repository Communities Discussions Questions/Feedback Workflow Admin Bookmark

FKN Community : FKN » Edit Page

Add a Channel to this Page Save Draft Submit Draft for Approval

**Red Leg 6**



**MG Michael Maples**  
Commandant, United States Army Field Artillery Center  
Welcome to the Fires Knowledge Network. We have worked long and hard to make this a place where all Fire Supporters want to come. We will appreciate any and all suggestions for improvement.

**External Army Communities**

- CompanyCommand.com
- Squad-Leader.com
- S3-XO.net

**FKN Home**

**Welcome to the Fires Knowledge Network**

The Fires Knowledge Network (FKN) is the core of this pilot. FKN consists of three primary areas: (1) Communities of Practice, (2) a Knowledge Repository, and (3) the Request for Information (RFI) tool.

Communities of Practice - FKN will include many nested secure and open communities of practice on a variety of issues. These exist to allow subscribers to exchange ideas and collaborate on lessons learned.

Knowledge Repository - The Knowledge Repository is a collection of information about fire support that has been validated by the Subject Matter Experts of the FKN.

Request for Information Tool - The RFI Tool is a workflow application that allows all users to submit requests for information to the Subject Matter Experts of the FKN. Validated responses will be sent directly to users within specified time periods.

**FKN Discussions**

**Discussion Forums**

Name (Click to go to Forum)	Total Messages	Today's Messages	Most Recent Post
FKN Pilot Discussions	4	0	Description of file displayed when scrolled over it with the cursor

**Toolbox**

- Add Community News Bulletin
- Add a New Book Review
- Add a New CoP

**Communities**

- Other Knowledge Networks
- My Communities
- FKN
  - Cannon Artillery
  - FDC Techies
  - Fire Support in the light
  - Test CoP

**Important Links**

- Field Artillery School
- United States Army Home Page
- Reimer Digital Library
- Technical Manuals on line
- Soldiers Training Homepage
- Center for Army Lessons Learned

start Removable Disk (E:) FKN Jasc Paint Shop Pro - ... AKO - Pilot - Microsof... 10:25 PM



# Knowledge Repository

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the FKN Knowledge Repository. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://cop.us.army.mil/a/index.jsp>. The page features a navigation bar with links to FKN Home, Knowledge Repository, Communities, Discussions, Questions/Feedback, and Workflow Admin. The main content area is titled "FKN Community : FKN Knowledge Repository" and includes a sidebar with "Communities" and "FKN Knowledge Repository" sections. The "FKN Knowledge Repository" section lists various folders such as "Warrant Office Training", "Unit Training", "Training Aids Devices", "Simulations and Simulators", "TRADOC System Managers", "Survey", "Radar", "Officer Training", "New Equipment Training", "NCOA", and "Meteorological". The main content area displays a "FAQ List" with a table of frequently asked questions and answers.

**FAQ List**

This is the frequently asked questions channel. In this channel you can view all questions and answers that have been blessed by the Subject Matter Experts for this knowledge network. You can scroll through the list of FAQs below, or click on the Search link to the right to search for information on specific topics.

Search FAQs

1 through 5 of 5      Top | << Previous | Next >>      Sort by: Date

Question	Date Posted	Times Viewed
Q: I am looking for some information on out of traverse missions for 198's, where there are no DAP. We can shoot on a single azimuth, but are trying to ...	07/22/2003	17
Q: I am Wolf05 the Bn FDC Trainer at NTC Ft Irwin and I have a couple of questions that I need facts on and we can't seem to find any reference for them ...	07/22/2003	8
Q: 1. Request information for a 105mm towed howitzer regarding length, width (with trails spread), height, and weight. 2. The purpose of this request is to...	07/22/2003	2
Q: I have an M109A6 Howitzer that has an excessive amount of backlash between the pinion gears on the traversing mechanism and the racing ring gear. There ...	07/22/2003	7
Q: Can I get a copy of the crew drills used for occupation, for a Paladin Platoon? I'm looking for information, by the numbers (by soldier is possible),...	07/22/2003	5



# Request for Information (RFI)

The screenshot displays the Army Knowledge Online (AKO) web application in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar shows the URL <https://cop.us.army.mil/a/index.jsp>. The page features the FKN (Fires Knowledge Network) logo and navigation tabs for FKN Home, Knowledge Repository, Communities, Discussions, Questions/Feedback, and Workflow Admin. The user is logged in as eddie.c.henderson on Wednesday, July 23, 2003. The main content area is titled "FKN Community : FKN Request for Information" and includes a "Communities" sidebar with a tree view showing "Other Knowledge Networks", "My Communities", and "FKN" (with "Cannon Artillery" as a sub-item). The main section is titled "Ask a Question" and contains a "Contact a Subject Matter Expert" heading. Below this, a paragraph explains the inquiry process: "How does this inquiry get to the correct Subject Matter Expert? Upon submitting your question or feedback, you inquiry will go through a workflow process staffed by Administrators and Subject Matter Experts within the Fire Support Community. Every request will be seen by real people, so please only submit serious inquiries. Upon receipt of your inquiry, a primary administrator will read your request, assign it a priority, and route it to the appropriate division. At this point you will receive an email confirming that the process has begun on your inquiry, and informing you of the priority that your request has been given. The amount of time that you should expect before hearing a response is dependent on the priority assigned. Roughly, however, high priority cases take about 1 day, while low priority cases take approximately 2 weeks." Below the text, there are two numbered steps: "1) Enter your question in the box below:" followed by a large text input area, and "2) Modify your contact information (if necessary):" followed by a text input field labeled "Address Line 1:" containing the text "hOTD". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications: Start, Inbox - Mi..., RFI Screens, Document..., FKN Infant..., Army Kno..., Jasc Paint..., and Internet. The system clock indicates 5:14 PM.

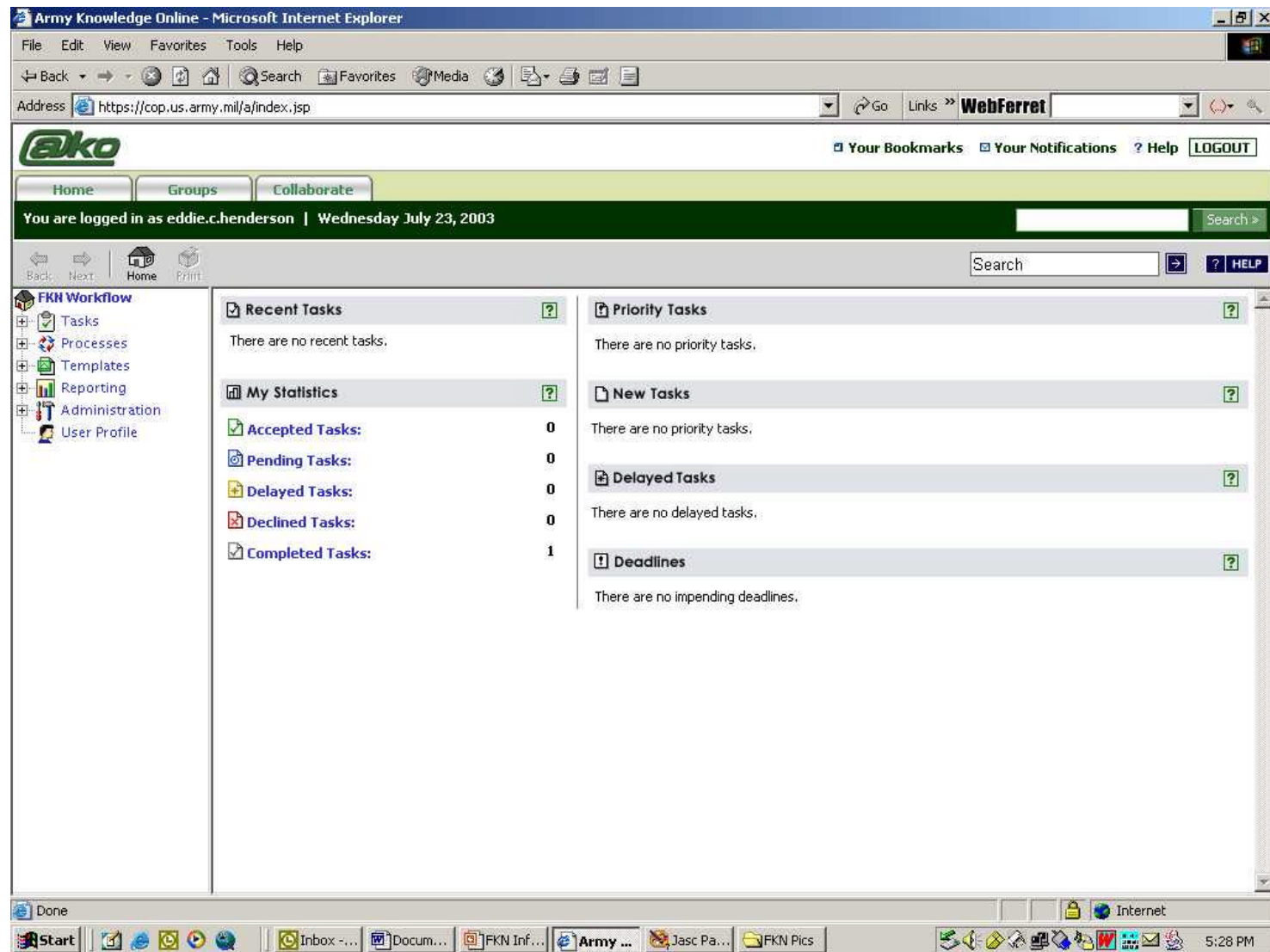




# Communities Homepage



# RFI/Workflow



**USAFAC Directorate of Training and Doctrine**



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